

## **PAWTUCKET WELLNESS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**School Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room 286  
Main Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860**

**Tuesday, February 26, 2013, 6:30 PM**

**Welcome**

- **Introduction of Participants**

**The Wellness Subcommittee Meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Joanne Bonollo, Committee Chair. Attending the meeting were Joanne Bonollo, Ken Bowdish, Sandra Cano, Debbie Cylke, Laurie Dufault, Mary Parella, Miriam Plitt, Arthur Plitt, Kathy Suriani and Ronnie Cremonini. Guest attendee was Angela Ankoma, Rhode Island Department of Health.**

- **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Ms. Bonollo led members in the pledge of allegiance,  
Public Participation - None.**

**Old Business - Obesity and Poverty Presentation \***

**Angie Ankoma, from the Rhode Island Department of Health, gave a presentation on obesity and poverty, which included a short clip of an HBO documentary called, "Weight of the Nation." A discussion followed, and Ms. Bonollo asked members to bring ideas to the next meeting how the Committee could help to promote healthy living/choices within the Pawtucket community.**

**Arthur Plitt asked Ms. Ankoma if there were grants available for Pawtucket through the Health Department. She responded currently there were none but possibly in July. She suggested checking out "Grant Finders" website and offered to send a link to Ms. Bonollo.**

## **Action Item(s)**

**Approval of January 15 and 22, 2013 meeting minutes - (Item addressed at the end of the meeting)**

- **Miriam Plitt motioned to approve, Kathy Suriani seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Minutes approved.**

## **Community Reports**

- **Sodexo - No Report**
- **Neighborhood Health Plan - No Report**
- **Childhood Opportunity Zone (COZ) - No Report**

**-1-**

## **Old Business**

- **Obesity and Poverty Presentation \* Item moved to the beginning of the meeting.**
- **Teen Pregnancy Awareness Program Update**

**Mary Parella passed out an information sheet on the Teen Outreach Program and reviewed it with the committee members; a copy is on file in the Superintendent's office.**

- **Wellness Collaborative Policy Update**

**Joanne Bonollo announced the Wellness Collaborative Policy Committee met earlier in the day, and she introduced Ken Bowdish who volunteered to Chair the Policy Committee. He will work with Solange Morrisette to create a layout/outline for review. Mr. Bowdish will provide future reports to the Wellness Subcommittee.**

- **Pawtucket Backpackers Program Update**

**Ms. Bonollo reported, Mr. Jorge Cardenas of the Providence Back to**

**School Celebration program, had planned to attend the Wellness meeting, but did not due to illness. She further reported, the Pawtucket School District will be utilizing the 501(c)(3) of the Providence Back to School Celebration program and a "boiler plate" agreement is being reviewed by the school district's attorney. After the agreement is approved and signed, an account will be set up at Bristol County and Savings Banks. Ms. Bonollo informed members approximately \$1,200 in cash donations had been received following the recent Valley Breeze article. Ms. Bonollo has been in touch with BJs regarding an in-kind donation and Mary Parella has been in contact with Job Lots. The program start date will hopefully be in March. Solange Morrisette has offered bins from the packing room and Patti DiCenso will speak to John Haidemenos about having the bins decorated. They can then be placed at churches and other locations for food collection.**

**Miriam Plitt spoke briefly on the American Heart Association and current bills at the legislature. She also reported on the all-state reading day, which focused on children's health. The book read was Joyce Feldman's, "Is Your Hair Made of Donuts?"**

**• Set Next Meeting Dates - Not Discussed Adjournment**

**There being no further business to come before the Committee, Sandra Cano motioned to adjourn, Laurie Dufault seconded. Motioned passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.**